

Appendix C

Ranked Threats to Agriculture Industry

RANKED

- Loss of productive agricultural land **8 Dots**
- Economic viability of farming (increased costs, decreased income, health insurance costs, etc.) **6 Dots**
- Capital investment required **6 Dots**
- Pressure from non-compatible uses **4 Dots**
- Farmers die without replacement/aging farmers **4 Dots**
- Rapid Subdivision of Exclusive Agriculture Land **4 Dots**
- Increasing land value resulting in increased taxes **3 Dots**
- Estate taxes **2 Dots**
- Low real estate tax encourages development **2 Dots**
- Land values are not based on agriculture production but on development potential **2 Dots**
- Diseases **2 Dots**
- Farming where industry is located **1 Dot**
- Criticism of intensive agriculture **1 Dot**
- County giving mixed signals – left hand doesn't know what right hand is doing **1 Dot**
- Conflict on roads – farm equipment & cars **1 Dot**
- Poor press **1 Dot**
- Public perception of agriculture—need to sell reason agriculture is good **1 Dot**
- Loss of historic sites in rural areas **1 Dot**

UN-RANKED

- Urban sprawl
- Reduction in the number of family farms
- Competition for land among ag people
- Terrorist action
- Markets – the ability to have facilities to market product
- Flexibility of product prices
- Weather
- Environmentalists target farmers first
- Shortage of affordable labor; labor shortage
- Sewerage treatment plants
- Farmers are in the minority with no lobby, no time to speak up
- Public fear of biotechnology
- Rapid expansion of technology; need for training